

Newport & Gwent Philately November 2010 - Number 44

News of Members

Members were saddened to hear of the death of Dave Jones on 18 September 2010. Dave had been a member for many years but could attend only the occasional meetings in recent seasons. Dave was also a stalwart member of the Redwick community and the Chepstow Male Voice Choir.

Recent meetings

The 2010/2011 season kicked off as usual with new acquisitions, this was followed by an evening where members could see what can be done with computers and could ask questions. An evening of George V to coincide with the London 2010 theme attracted 19 members. So far we have made only one visit, this was to Hereford, where I showed Venice, Martyn Britton brought Newport post offices, Peter Coldrey showed some early GB items and Roy Bentley exhibited Christmas Island. Hereford members said that this was with biggest turnout that they had had in a long while (see picture below).



South Wales Federation News

Molly-Ann Clibbert, one of the children in Bev Davies' school group, entered the South Wales Federation junior competition and gained a bronze medal with her exhibit *La Mer*. A photo of her with her mother at the Convention appeared in the September ABPS News. Neil Jones gained a gold medal for his New Zealand exhibit and also picked up the prize for best in show.



John Baron, Chairman of the ABPS, attended the Convention and is shown on the left with Neil Prior (Federation Secretary), Paula Bebell (Deputy Mayoress Port Talbot), John Perry (Federation Chairman), Harry Bebell (Deputy Mayor Port Talbot).



You can read more about the Convention in the September 2010 edition of *ABPS News*, which is now available as a download from the "NEWS" section of the ABPS web site:
www.abps.org.uk.

The club had a table at the Autumn Day organised by the Barry club to coincide with that club's 80th anniversary. The event was well-organised with plenty of bargains to be had but attendance was disappointing. Next year's fair will be in Port Talbot: please make an effort to attend.

The Federation AGM was on 23 October. Three Newport members attended for both the morning displays and the afternoon meeting. The main item for discussion was the Federation exchange box, where the issue of substitution of stamps had come up again. This is a serious issue and will result in much closer monitoring of future circuits.

Stamp News

While there have been no further stamps with a Gwent theme, Royal Mail did produce a postmark for the Pontypool and Blaenavon Railway on 18 September.



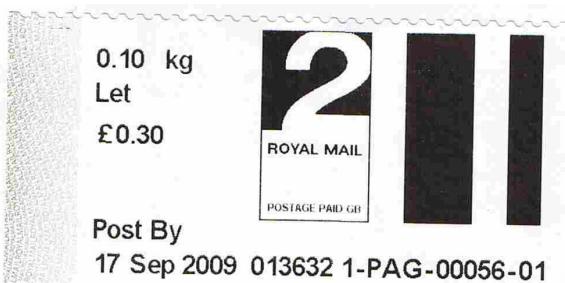
Many thanks to Ian Billings of Norvic Philatelics for this information. His web site is a mine of information for any GB collector. The web site is: www.norvic-philatelics.co.uk

The South Wales Argus gave publicity to three Royal Mail stamp issue launches in 2010: endangered mammals (Hedgehog Helpline), medical discoveries (Royal Gwent) and Winnie the Pooh (Rogerstone School). Royal Mail did not see fit to produce any special postmarks for Newport for these events.

Recently, ebay had an item that sold for £8.48 including postage showing an error on the new post labels. The label is only part printed:



Here is a normal print for comparison:



There were no stamps and no postmark for the landmark Ryder Cup 2010 in Newport. This shows the attitude of Royal Mail. In 2006, An Post (Irish Post Office) produced a set of four stamps to celebrate the arrival of the event in Cork.



Welsh Philatelic Society (WPS)

Martyn Britton and John Perry with our wives attended the annual WPS weekend at Plas Tan Y Bwlch in June. This was a great weekend that can be recommended to all club members. The WPS also offers other meetings, including one on 20 November 2010 at the Selwyn Centre Llanelli, at which all are welcome, especially non-members. The annual subscription to the WPS is £9 (or £7 for senior citizens).

As a postscript to the North Wales weekend, my wife twisted her ankle and could not climb Snowdon with me. We then booked a break in October for her to try again (successfully). Near the top of the (Pyg) track to Snowdon there is a post to help walkers confirm their route in the cloud. This time we found it to have pennies inserted by passing walkers. Here is a picture of the "penny post".



Local Events for Your Diary

19 March 2011 – Swansea Philatelic Society – Glamorgan Arms Hotel, Pontlliw, Swansea, SA4 9 DY

16 April 2011 – South Wales Postcard Club Spring Fair – Roath Community Centre, Cardiff

John Perry, Honorary Secretary